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Appomattox, Virginia

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EDITORIAL OPINION

MORE PROBLEMS OF SURPLUS

The richness and fabulous natural resource of this North American continent is emphasized by the building up of food surpluses, not only in the United States, but in Canada as well.

A delegation representing 450,000 members of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, has made proposals for assistance that are now being considered by the Canadian Cabinet.

Canadian farmers have an $8 billion industry, and they want broad bases of price props. They ask that the government ban imports of cheese, increase tariffs on oils used in margarine, provide free milk for school children, and dispose of surplus butter outside the country.

Canada is reported as having a surplus of 22,000,000 pounds of butter. Butter is supported by the government at 58 cents a pound. In addition to butter, eggs, and hogs have price support: eggs at 38 cents a dozen and hogs at 23 cents a pound. The Canadian farmers want price support extended to wheat oats, barley, corn, cheese, concentrated milk products, poultry and forage crop seeds.

It seems to us that freer world trade must have a part in solving our problems related to surpluses. Not only in foods, but in a variety of commodities, this continent has untapped potential for production. But markets must be found, and trades worked out. The world will take American goods, but how to pay for them is as yet unsolved.

PARTIALLY EDUCATED

At a conference of heads of private schools, in New York last week, Dr. John F. Gummere, headmaster of the William Penn Charter School of Philadelphia, cited samples of an appalling ignorance in schools. He used as an example an experience encountered in a Middle Atlantic state. In a ninth grade class, only a third of the pupils could name ten states other than their own. A tenth could not name one state and one pupil listed Boston as a state, and two gave this title to Cuba.

Dr. Gummere also mentioned the lack of general knowledge on the part of candidates for doctorate degrees. Some of these candidates—too many—did not know what the Renaissance was, could not identify Bismarck, did not know about the Magna Carta or the Monroe Doctrine.

We are prone to agree with his conclusion: "Unless the liberal arts are kept in a prominent place in any curriculum for teachers of any subject, we shall be getting in our professional specialty the partially educated man or woman."

THE ARRIVAL OF MARCH

(Blackstone, Va., Courier-Record)

With rushing winds and gloomy skies
The dark and stubborn Winter dies;
Far-off, unseen, Spring faintly cries,
Bidding her earliest child arise;
March!

—Bayard Taylor

March is a turning-point month, when Winter begins to give away to warmer weather and the first signs of Spring appear. In early colonial days, the year began in March. The name of the month comes from the name Mars, which in ancient Italian was the name for the God of War.

Spring officially begins on the 21st of March, this year, and Good Friday and Easter sometimes fall in this month, although neither does this year. St. Patrick's Day comes on the 17th of this month and the month is a notable one for New York, Texas, Maryland and Massachusetts. Maryland Day falls on March 25th. Albany became the capital of New York on March 10, 1797, and the United States Military Academy was established at West Point on March 16th, 1802.

In Massachusetts Evacuation Day in Boston is commemorated on March 17th. The evacuation took place in 1776, being made by the British, which event is still celebrated. The Boston Massacre is also remembered and took place in March of 1770.

For Texas March is an historical month because on March 2nd, 1836, even while Santa Anna was besieging the Alamo, Texas was declared to be independent of Mexico. March 6th is also Alamo Day in Texas, the anniversary of the fall of the Alamo, which came about on March 6th, 1836.

Several major birthday anniversaries occur in March. March 3rd is the birthday anniversary of Alexander Graham Bell; March 7th that of Luther Burbank; March 8th that of Simon Cameron, who founded a political dynasty in Pennsylvania which lasted for decades; March 16th that of President James Madison; March 17th that of Roger B. Tanney, fifteenth justice of the United States Supreme Court; March 18th that of Grover Cleveland, the only American President to serve two non-consecutive terms as President; March 19th that of William Jennings Bryan, and March 29th that of President John Tyler, the tenth President of the United States.

Also in March comes Girls' Scout Day, on March 12th, and Seward Day on March 30th, in Alaska, the anniversary of the day, in 1868, when Russia ceded Alaska to the United States for $7,200,000.

"DYNAMIC CONSERVATISM"

(Sherman, Texas, Democrat)

President Eisenhower has had quite a time trying to fit his domestic political aims into a political label.

First, he tried the term, "Progressive Moderates." But progressive has been perverted from its original vigorous meanings given it by Theodore Roosevelt. And moderates, meaning a middle-of-the-road approach, is not inspiring.

Now the President has chosen another label, "Dynamic Conservatism." He explained it to the members of the Republican National committee at the luncheon that picked the site of the national convention in these words:

"I have tried to find a phrase in which to define what the Republican party has done at home. I said we were "progressive moderates.' Right at the movement I rather favor the term 'dynamic conservatism.' I believe we should be conservative. I believe we should conserve on everything that is basic to our system. We should be dynamic in applying it to the problems of the day so that all 163,000,000 Americans will profit from it."

Scoffers might seize on this explanation to call dynamic conservatism nothing more or less than preserving the status quo. That would conserve everything basic to our system. But the status quo, however attractive in a time of flux, is not dynamic. Therefore, the application must be, and the President made that distinction by his choice of words.

But what does this actually mean with regard to the President's domestic program for the last two years of his first term? Does the change of labels mean a change in direction? If it does, it is not discernable in the various messages and proposals he has made to Congress. They are a continuation of his initial program, that program which from the start pledged to maintain and expand an economy based on the private enterprise system.

One thing the President did not tell his party's national committee. Progressive moderate or dynamic conservative, he depends on the Democratic majority to enact his program into law. Will that require still another word in his new label, "dynamic conservative democracy?"

That would be a simple recognition of the comforting support he is finding in the new Congress among Southern conservatives.

EVERYBODY'S SCHOOLS

(The New York Times)

The half-dozen major items just listed as the agenda for the White House Conference on Education next fall illuminate and emphasize the scope as well as the diversity of the problems of our schools. While people tend to think, naturally, in terms of the most immediately urgent of these this important conference would ill serve its aims if it did not look beyond the present emergencies to a sound foundation for the longer future.

The topics chosen, with a subcommittee for each, are in themselves a logical outline of directions that thinking on our schools should take. President James R. Killian Jr., of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will be chairman of a group to suggest "what should our schools accomplish." Organizing school systems more efficiently and economically will be the subject studied by a committee under the Colorado Commissioner of Education, Dr. H. Grant West. Mr. Preston Lane Jr., former Governor of Maryland, directs a fact-finding inquiry into our school building needs.

"How can we get enough good teachers—and keep them?" is the gravely important question to be answered by the first vice president of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, Mrs. Rollin Brown of Los Angeles. "How can we finance our schools—build and operate them?" is another critical issue. Frank C. Moore, former Lieutenant Governor of New York and now president of the Government Affairs Foundation, Inc., brings to this problem long practical experience. Finally, the topic how we can obtain a continuing public interest in education will be explored by Jesse G. Stratton of Oklahoma, past president of the National School Boards Association.

It would be difficult to assign a priority of importance to these subjects, for they march together to determine the welfare of our schools, the health of our democracy and the advancing future of our nation. Certainly without adequate school plant, the supplying of which is now a matter of Congressional controversy, the education of our children must suffer.

But the key to meeting the present emergency in that respect, as well as to the adequate supply of good teachers, must finally lie in enlightened, enthusiastic, sustained public interest in education. For ill fares the school system in any community when the people of that community are too busy, too indifferent, too pocketbook-conscious to concern themselves about and make the sacrifices for school plant, a sufficiency of teachers, and salary scales that will recruit to education the qualified young people to staff the classrooms. So it becomes obvious that interest in education and its physical and human problems starts from the ground up. It proceeds through school board, village, town and city officials, thence to state and national capitals.

To inspire and channel effectively this public interest is, of course a major purpose of this White House conference, for which preparatory studies are going on throughout the country, state by state. The breadth of preliminary work suggests what is indeed the fact, that education must be everybody's business.

Subscription rate: $2.00 a year; payable in advance.

Homemakers Items

Be saucy! That's the advice to cooks from nutritionists at VPI.

A good sauce will liven up the meal, and here are some easy recipes.

For a thin white sauce use 1 cup of milk, 1 tablespoon of flour, and 1 tablespoon of table fat. It's good for cream soup, creamed and scalloped vegetables, eggs, fish, and meat.

For a medium white sauce use 1 cup of milk, 2 tablespoons of flour, 2 tablespoons of table fat. Has same uses as a thin sauce.

For a thick white sauce, use 1 cup of milk, 3 to 4 tablespoons flour and 3 to 4 tablespoons of table fat. Use as a binder for croquettes, and for souffles.

To make the sauces, melt fat and blend in the flour to make a smooth mixture. Add milk slowly and cook over very low heat, stirring constantly, until thickened. Add salt to taste—about ¼ taespoon for each cup of milk used. Cook 3 to 5 minutes longer, stirring occasionally.

For a cheese sauce, add 1 cup of finely grated cheese to 1 cup hot white sauce—thin or medium. Stir until cheese is melted.. Be sure not to overcook.

For an egg sauce, stir 2 chopped hard-cooked eggs and 2 tablespoons lemon juice into 1½ cups hot white sauce—thin or medium.

To make tomato sauce, use 1 cup fresh tomatoes cut in pieces or 2 cups cooked or canned tomatoes. Cook slowly with ¼ teaspoon of sugar if desired, ¼ cup diced onion, small piece of bay leaf, and 2 cloves. Cook 20 minutes for fresh tomatoes, 10 minutes for canned. Put through a sieve or ricer press. Blend 2 tablespoons melted fat with 2 tablespoons flour. Add stir in the tomato mixture. Cook slowly over low heat, stirring often, until thickened. Season with salt and pepper. For Spanish sauce, add ½ cup chopped green pepper to the tomato mixture, and do not strain.

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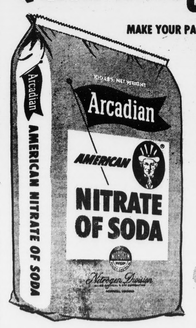

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From where I sit ... *by* Joe Marsh

Uses His Head Saves His Feet

Nobody around here can remember when Pop Turner wasn't our town's postman. He must have been toting that big, heavy mail-sack since Pony Express days.

That's why it's sometimes a shock to see him these days pulling his mail bag around in a "caddy cart," a sort of light wagon that golfers use so they don't have to carry their clubs.

"Folks sometimes holler 'fore' at me and ask me how my game is," Pop reports, "but I'm not ashamed to learn something new. Just wish I'd thought about these golf gadgets years ago!"

From where I sit, it's good to see someone come up with a new wrinkle—keeps us from feeling too regimented. For instance, perhaps you've always felt that hot milk is the only thing to drink at bedtime. Then someday you meet a fellow who prefers a cold glass of beer. Well, that's his choice — and certainly he's entitled to it. We can't expect everyone to follow our old habits to the "letter."

Joe Marsh

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VEPCO Announces Huge Capital Outlay Construction Program

The Virginia Electric and Power Company will spend over $53,000,000 on new construction this year, according to Vepco president, Jack G. Holtzclaw.

Included in the 1955 construction budget is $11,700,000 additional for the hydro development being built on the Roanoke River at Roanoke Rapids, N. C., and $7,300,000 for the completion of a third generating unit at the Possum Point power station near Quantico, Va.

Improvements to the present electric and gas properties and the extension of electric and gas services to new customers will cost almost $28,000,000, and $3,800,000 is to be expended for changes in the company's high voltage transmission network.

During the past seven years, Vepco has spent $250,000,000 on construction and it is expected that in the years ahead large annual construction expenditures will continue as the need for improved and expanded service increases.

Appropriations for the Richmond-Petersburg area will include $500,000 towards a storage, repair, and maintenance shop in Richmond, estimated to cost $900,000 upon completion in 1956; $250,000 toward a dust collector installation at the Chesterfield Power station, total cost on completion in 1956 estimated at $750,000, and $150,000 toward a distribution service building in Petersburg, to cost $250,000 upon completion next year.

In the Hampton Roads area expenditures will include $2,500,000 for completion of the addition to the Portsmouth power station and $500,000 for the installation of a heavy fuel oil system. In Norfolk, Newport News, and Hampton, where the company supplies natural gas, improvements and expansion of the gas system will cost approximately $2,600,000. Completion of the Norfolk office and service building on Cromwell Road (total cost $1,600,000) will require over $700,000, and $755,000 will be spent during the year on the Peninsula headquarters building to be erected in Hampton at a cost of $1,000,000.

In Northern Virginia, in addition to the $7,300,000 for completion of the Possum Point power station addition now under construction $160,000 will be spent during 1955 for enlargement of the company's Alexandria office and service building expected to cost $360,000.

New construction in Western and Southside Virginia will include an additional $800,000 for the 110,000 volt transmission line from Kerr Dam to Pamplin City, and $185,000 for a headquarters building in Charlotteville, expected to cost $485,000 upon completion in 1956.

In Vepco's North Carolina service area, construction will include $11,700,000 additional on the Roanoke Rapids hydro power plant. Other appropriations in the budget include $290,000 for a new service building for the Roanoke Rapids area; $30,000 for a new substation and feeder lines; a 33,000 volt line between Winfall and Snow Hill and the substation at Snow Hill costing $60,000; $50,000 toward the cost of a similar installation between Nags Head and Kitty Hawk estimated to cost $130,000 when completed in 1956, and rebuilding of the line crossing Currituck Sound $20,000.

OAKVILLE 4-H CLUB

The Oakville 4-H Club will meet at the Oakville school on Monday, March 14, at 10:40 A. M.

PLAY SAFE—
SPRING CLEAN-UP

Have you started your spring clean-up?

This question is being directed more to farmers than to homemakers, according to the Virginia Rural Safety Council.

The Council points out that tools, bags of feed, buckets, and just common debris and trash are responsible for hospitalizing one out of every five accident victims. This was shown by a study which showed further that the largest single cause of injuries, other than the personal factor of poor judgment, is disorder.

So play safe! Eliminate these points for safety's sake:

Broken, wobbly steps which might cripple someone for life.

Tottery, old buildings that sometimes add to the list of those seriously injured.

Unmarked bottles of poison and poisons left within reach of children.

Accumulations of trash, paper, scattered boxes and boards, rags and rubbish which are serious fire hazards and ideal breeding places for rats.

But be careful about gathering up trash and burning it. You may start a dangerous fire. Better dump it in a gully to help check erosion.

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The smart louvers across the hood aren't just decoration . . . they mark the intake for the High-Level ventilation system for cleaner, fresher air. And the whole shape of the body—its lowness, the dipped belt line—is merely a reflection of a lowered center of gravity.

This is truly functional styling that serves you better every mile, and preserves its value against the distant day when you trade. This is Body by Fisher—another Chevrolet exclusive in the low-price field. Come in and let us demonstrate that this new Chevrolet is just as exciting to drive as to look at!

1 *Visored headlights*

2 *Louvered High-Level air intake*

3 *Sweep-Sight windshield*

4 *Distinctive dip in belt line*

5 *Fender-high taillights*

6 *Tasteful two-tone color styling*

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